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# Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1877.

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TAKA TEA WITH ME  
AT  
**WISEMAN'S**  
TO-DAY  
4.30 Sharp.

No. 18,433. 號三廿百八千一第 HONGKONG, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 1918. 二拜禮 號一月十年七國民華中 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

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## TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.		
7.00 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes
8.00 "	to 8.30 "	" 10 "
8.30 "	to 10.00 "	" 10 "
10.30 "	to 11.00 "	" 10 "
11.30 "	to 12.30 p.m.	" 15 "
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15 "	" 10 "
1.45 "	to 2.15 "	" 10 "
2.45 "	to 2.15 "	Sat., every 15 "
3.15 "	to 4.00 "	Every 30 "
4.30 "	to 4.00 "	Sat., only 15 "
4.00 "	to 6.00 "	Every 15 "
6.00 "	to 8.00 "	" 10 "
NIGHT CARS.		
8.50 p.m.	8.30 p.m. to 10 p.m.	11.00 p.m.
	11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.	
SATURDAY.		
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SUNDAY.		
7.30 a.m.		
8.00 "	to 10.30 a.m.	Every 15 minutes
10.30 "	to 11.0 a.m.	" 10 "
11.30 "	to 12.0 noon	" 15 "
12.00 noon	to 12.7.0 a.m.	" 10 "
12.30 p.m.	to 1.30 p.m.	" 15 "
2.00 "	to 3.30 "	" 15 "
3.30 "	to 6.00 "	" 10 "
6.00 "	to 7.00 "	" 15 "
7.00 "	to 8.00 "	" 10 "
NIGHT CARS.		
8.50 p.m.	8.30 p.m. to 10 p.m.	11.00 p.m.
	11.30 p.m. and 11.4 p.m.	



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## JAPAN AND CHINA.

## A DISQUIETING REPORT DENIED.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PEKING, September 29th.  
A very disquieting report, which was  
repeated in the Japanese Press, that  
Group V of the Twenty-One  
Demands of 1915, is heard in Chinese  
circles, and had not been for the fact  
that the newspapers took two days' holiday  
in celebration of the Moon Festival  
there would have been more comment than  
so far has taken place. The Japanese  
Legation declares the report to be unfounded,  
while the Chinese Foreign Office  
is unaware of the alleged negotiations  
taken as an indication that a mistake  
had been made somewhere, but, recollecting  
the denial of the Twenty-One Demands  
as published in the Press, although they  
were substantially correct, and bearing  
in mind also the secrecy which  
enveloped the recently concluded Sino-  
Japanese Military Convention, it is not  
surprising that the report should give  
rise to uneasiness among Chinese and  
also among foreigners interested in the  
future development of the Republic.  
The catalogue of demands, as detailed  
by a reliable Chinese source, is as follows:

The right to construct a railway from  
Kaomi, in Shantung province, to Han-  
chow in Kiangsu province.  
The right to construct a railway from  
Tientsin, north of the Yellow River, to  
Shanghai in Chihli province, joining the  
Peking-Hankow line.  
The right to construct five other rail-  
ways. One of these is from Tsaoan or  
from Jehol to Peking. The other four  
are not specified.

The amount of the loans for the two  
first-mentioned is not disclosed, but the  
interest is to be at the rate of 8 per cent.  
For the last group of railways six mil-  
lion yen have already been advanced at  
the same rate. The terms, however, are  
very exacting in other respects, for the  
Japanese ask to be allowed to establish  
civil offices in Shantung as well as in  
Manchuria and Mongolia, and to be given  
the right to work mines in the several  
railway zones.

A loan of four million yen, also bear-  
ing interest at 8 per cent., is to be made  
for military purposes which will carry  
the right to train the Chinese Army with  
Japanese officers, and an extension of the  
Sino-Japanese Military Convention.  
A loan of two million yen for political  
purposes is also to be made, based on  
the security of the Wine and Tobacco Tax.  
This is a fairly comprehensive list, and  
it is to be hoped that it is, as the  
Japanese say, devoid of foundation in  
fact. Developments will be awaited with  
interest.

## CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG HOI"  
SAN PO.]

CANTON, September 30th.  
We are informed that the Provincial  
Assembly will be reopened on the 7th  
October when the question of the Civil  
Governorship will be discussed.

Li is reported to have spent several  
thousands of dollars on furniture when  
he was in Hongkong, and it is presumed  
that he will reside permanently in the  
Colony when affairs have been settled in  
Canton.

PEACE AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT.  
We learn from a reliable source that  
Shum Chun-kuei, who is to be the  
Vice-President, and with this and in  
view of sending representatives to nego-  
tiate peace with the Peking Government,  
Shum believes that the Vice-President  
will be given to a Southerner in order  
to bring about peace.

SALE OF A GUNBOAT.  
It is reported that the gunboat *Kwong  
Hoi*, which was first sold to a Hongkong  
merchant, who could not complete the  
purchase, has now been disposed of to a  
French merchant for \$1,150,000.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY  
THEFT FROM MESSES. LANE,  
CRAWFORD & CO.

Two Chinese were charged before Mr.  
J. R. Wood with the theft of 20 bars of  
iron from Messrs. Lane, Crawford &  
Co's premises. Another Chinese was  
charged with receiving the iron, knowing  
it to be stolen.

Inspector Kent said that an Indian  
Sergeant caught a Chinese in the act of  
receiving the bars of iron from the two  
Chinese who were working in the base-  
ment of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co's  
premises.

The case against all three defendants  
was remanded until Thursday.

## "A PERFECT NUISANCE"

"They are a perfect nuisance," was  
Inspector Gordon's description of five  
Chinese whom he charged with begging.  
He said that he had to put plain clothes  
constables on duty to get them; for, in  
spite of looking old and decrepit, they ran  
fast enough when they saw a policeman  
in uniform. They begged at the Roman  
Catholic Church in Kowloon.

The defendants were fined \$5 each, with  
the alternative of a fortnight's hard  
labour.

Inspector Macdonald said that the  
police would send the defendants to  
Canton at the completion of their sen-  
tence.

## ALLEGED KIDNAPING.

A Chinese was charged yesterday  
before Mr. J. R. Wood with having kid-  
napped a Chinese boy.

Inspector Brown said that a Chinese  
detective, travelling on the railway from  
Sham Ouen to Kowloon, saw the defend-  
ant with three little boys. He suspected  
that the defendant had kidnapped the boys  
and therefore arrested him at Kow-  
loon. Investigation elicited the fact that  
two of the boys had no parents, and the  
Police had decided, for the present, to  
charge the defendant with kidnapping the  
other boy. The Inspector asked that  
the case be remanded till the parents of  
the boy were brought to Hongkong from  
a village near Canton.

The application was granted.

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the  
Kowloon Cricket Club was held at the  
Club-house yesterday evening. Owing to  
the unavoidable absence of Dr. Forsyth  
and Mr. R. E. Lindell, the proceedings  
did not commence until 50 minutes after  
the advertised time. Mr. C. W. Jeffries  
was subsequently elected to the chair.  
The report for the past year and the state-  
ment of accounts were passed.

The Chairman said that no less than six  
members of the Committee elected last  
year had to be replaced owing to various  
reasons, chief among them being military  
service. He brought to the notice of the  
members that for the first time in its his-  
tory the Club had overdrawn its Bank  
account. This was because the Committee  
had thought it advisable to buy a large  
stock for the bar, upon which, he stated,  
they had, in spite of the lean days, made  
a good profit.

The election of officers for the ensuing  
year resulted as follows:—President: Dr.  
Forsyth (re-elected); Vice-President: Mr.  
R. E. Lindell (re-elected); Captain: Mr.  
J. P. Robinson; Vice-Captain: Mr. L. E.  
S. Hodge; Treasurer: Mr. E. Abraham  
(re-elected); Hon. Secretary: Mr. L. J.  
Blackburn (re-elected); General Com-  
mittee: Messrs. J. Hyde, D. Harvey, D.  
J. MacKenzie, D. Nielson, H. Overy,  
J. H. M. Mead, G. Stark, and E. J.  
Edwards; Balloting Committee: Messrs.  
W. Kay, D. C. Nicoll, A. Morrison, G.  
Duncan, G. Blair, J. Jack, F. P. Shroff,  
W. J. Owens, R. Mackintosh and J.  
Ormonston.

The usual honours to the Hon.  
Secretary and Treasurer were passed un-  
animously.

The Chairman said that it was hoped  
that the tennis playing members would  
bring their friends along to use the new  
tennis courts. It was also proposed, he  
said, that the lawn should be used for  
bowls, a game with many attractions for  
those nearing middle-age. It was the only  
outdoor game he knew during which a  
player could smoke a pipe in absolute  
comfort. He hoped that members would  
make an effort to introduce new "blood"  
into the Club and that the K.C.C. would  
be able to put up a good cricket eleven.  
He was sure that under the leadership of  
Mr. Robinson the team would do well.  
The Club had lost many members who had  
left for sterner duties, and if the war did  
not end very soon, and he was glad to  
think there was every reason to believe  
it would, the Club would have to exercise  
many small economies.

Mr. Blair reminded the members that  
the Club was intended for ladies as well  
as gentlemen. He hoped that the Club  
would do more for war charities in the  
future than had been done in the past.

The Chairman drew Mr. Blair's atten-  
tion to the "whip-round" circulated to  
all members, asking for contributions to  
war charities.

The Chairman later announced that  
Mr. Blair, Mr. J. M. Jones and another  
member of the Club, who preferred to  
remain anonymous, had kindly offered  
prizes for bowls, the conditions of the  
competitions being left in the hands of the  
Committee.

Mr. Goldring, in proposing a hearty  
vote of thanks to the Chairman for the  
able manner in which he had presided  
at the meeting, recalled to memory past  
annual meetings at which the Committee  
had very nearly, and some of the members  
had actually, come to blows. (Laughter.)

## SPORT.

## INTERPORT LAWN BOWLS.

## SHANGHAI DEFEATS HONGKONG.

The second interport match of the series  
at Shanghai took place on the 24th ult.  
and resulted, after a very interesting  
game, in a win for Shanghai by 19 points.  
The homesters early established a com-  
manding lead, but the visitors got going  
at the 10th end and at one time looked  
like putting up a close fight. Shanghai,  
however, at the 18th end again asserted  
supremacy and ultimately ran out win-  
ners by 30 points to 11. Appended are  
the teams and their scores:

Hongkong—W. Russell (skip), D.  
Harvey, C. Bond, and W. Gerrard—11.  
Shanghai—R. O. Aitkenhead (skip), J.  
O. Macdonald, R. J. Bowerman, and R.  
Simmons—30.

## HONGKONG DEFEAT HANKOW.

The third and last of the Interport  
matches at Shanghai was played on the  
25th ult. and resulted in an easy win for  
Hongkong by 17 points. The score  
hardly indicates the play, as Hankow  
experienced hard luck on several occa-  
sions. Appended are the teams and their  
scores:

Hankow—J. Paul (skip), W. Laidlaw,  
A. Crobie, and G. Miller—5.  
Hongkong—W. Gerrard (skip), W.  
Russell, C. Bond, and D. Harvey—22.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR.  
F. A. BIDEN.

## MILITARY FUNERAL YESTERDAY.

A painful impression was created yes-  
terday morning when it became known  
that Mr. Frederick Alan Biden,  
A.M.I.C.E., one of the Engineers of the  
P.W.D., had been found dead in bed at  
his residence, No. 11, Knutsford Terrace,  
Kowloon, the previous night.

The late Mr. Biden, who was nearly  
41 years of age, came to the Colony in  
August, 1904, from Trinidad, where he  
was an Assistant Engineer of the water-  
works. He went on leave in May, 1916,  
to Australia, with his newly-wedded wife.  
On the return voyage to the Colony Mrs.  
Biden died suddenly and was buried at  
sea. This was a very heavy blow to Mr.  
Biden, who never fully recovered from  
it, and on Sunday evening, when some  
friends visited him, he appeared to be  
very depressed.

The late Mr. Biden was well-known.  
He was a very popular member of the  
Hongkong Club, and was also a Company  
Sergeant-Major in the Defence Corps.  
Great regret is felt at his sudden and  
untimely end.

## THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place yesterday even-  
ing at Happy Valley. The deceased was  
accorded full military honours, a large  
number of members of the Hongkong  
Defence Corps attending under the com-  
mand of Capt. G. E. Stewart. The firing  
party, composed of 26 men of the Artillery  
Company, was followed by the band of  
the 18th Infantry playing Chopin's  
"Funeral March." Next came a gun-  
carriage bearing the coffin, which was  
covered with the Union Jack and a pro-  
fusion of floral tributes, amidst which  
reposed the sword and helmet of the  
deceased. Members of the Public Works  
Department headed by Mr. F. L. Perkins  
(Acting Director) were the chief mourners.  
When the cortege reached the cemetery  
gates six privates carried the coffin on  
their shoulders to its last resting-place.  
The Rev. H. C. Copley, Myles read the  
Burial Service, at the close of which  
three volleys were fired over the grave and  
the "Last Post" was sounded.

Amongst those present were:—Mr.  
P. P. J. Woodhouse, A.D.C. (representing  
H.E. the Officer Administering the  
Government), the Hon. Mr. A. G. M.  
Fletcher (Acting Colonial Secretary), the  
Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Mr. A. Gibson,  
Mr. J. R. Wood, and Mr. E. W. Hamilton.

Wreaths were sent by the Water Works  
Dept., P.W.D.; officers of the P.W.D.;  
native foreman and fitters, Water Works  
Dept., P.W.D.; office messengers, Water  
Works Dept.; E.A.M.C. Sergeants' Mess;  
right half Artillery Co. H.K.D.C.; left  
half Artillery Co. H.K.D.C.; sergeants' mess  
H.K.D.C.; officers' mess H.K.D.C.;  
Garrison Sergeants' mess; W.Os. Staff  
Sergeants and Sergeants, 88th Co.  
R.G.A.; members of the H.K.C.S.C.C.;  
Perseverance Lodge; Victoria Lodge;  
Messrs. C. E. Warren & Co., the Hon.  
Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., and Mrs.  
Chatham; Mr. T. L. Perkins, Mr. and  
Mrs. A. Hollingsworth, Mr. and Mrs.  
A. E. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Parker,  
Rees, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Jackson, Mr.  
and Mrs. H. F. Campbell, Mr. P. P. J.  
Woodhouse, Mr. E. G. Smith, Mr. F. S.  
Thompson, Mr. R. Kennedy, Dr. and Mrs.  
Shallies, Capt. W. Armstrong, Lieut.  
R. E. Lindell, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ed-  
gumbe, Mr. D. E. Donnelly, Mr. W. G.  
FitzGibbon, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. B.  
Kenneth, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. E. Bullock,  
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Goldsmith, Messrs.  
Leaman and W. Clark, Messrs. E. H. Smith  
and E. P. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. P. D.  
Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Dutton, Mr.  
E. W. Hamilton, Mr. P. W. Goldring,  
Mr. A. David, and Inspector Sim.

FAR EASTERN CABLE  
NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

BRITISH PROTEST AGAINST  
OPIUM REVIVAL.

PEKING, September 29th.

The British Legation has followed up  
the American in a note of protest against  
the opium revival as contrary to the  
spirit of The Hague Convention.

THE DEPRECIATION OF PEKING  
BANK NOTES.

The House of Representatives has ap-  
pointed a Committee to investigate  
depreciation of the Peking Bank  
and also to examine accounts.

PROTECTION OF TRAINS AGAINST  
BANDITS.

The Ministry of Communications has  
sanctioned the organisation of armed  
Police to travel on trains as a protection  
against bandits.

[THROUGH ROUTE'S AGENCY.]

## JAPAN'S PREMIER.

LONDON, September 28th.

A telegram from Tokio states that  
Marquis Saionji's acceptance of the Pre-  
miership is assured.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG HOI"  
SAN PO.]ATTEMPT ON THE PRESIDENT'S  
LIFE.

PEKING, September 30th.

An assassin, who gained admittance  
into Hsu Shih-chang's residence, made  
an attempt on Hsu's life. He was  
arrested by Hsu's bodyguards and hand-  
ed over to the police.

Hsu Shih-chang has decided to issue  
a declaration for an armistice on the  
day he assumes office.

Feng Kuo-chang will be appointed  
high political adviser to the President.

## THE SIBERIAN SITUATION.

COL SIMONOV GRATEFUL FOR  
GREAT BRITAIN'S HELP.

VLADIVOSTOCK, September 30th.

Meeting the eye at every corner to-day  
is a proclamation signed by General  
Gaida, the Czech Commander, ordering  
the mobilization of all the Czech-Slovaks  
in the Maritime Province in virtue of  
the mobilization proclaimed in West  
Siberia of all Czech-Slovaks in the ter-  
ritory occupied by the Czech-Slovak  
forces and the Siberian Provincial Gov-  
ernment.

This message is probably a prelude to  
a general mobilization in the Far East.

Colonial Simionov arrived this morn-  
ing and spent a busy day visiting the  
diplomats and military men. He is  
especially grateful for the help given  
him by Great Britain, and stated that  
the confidence and faith in Great Britain  
among all the Cossacks of the Amur and  
Ussuri is unbounded. The 26,000 Red  
Guards, Germans and Magyars opposed  
to him have now all been dispersed. A  
great number are in Mongolia, and he  
thinks part of them will be interned,  
while part are already turning to robbery  
and pillage. Others have fled to Taiga  
and Tundra and are doomed to perish  
of cold and hunger.

TOKIO, September 21st.

Vologodsky, the Premier of the Omak  
Government, has declared that he is op-  
posed to amalgamation with the Govern-  
ment at Vladivostok.

HARBIN, September 21st.

On account of the shortage of rolling-  
stock passenger traffic between stations  
in Manchuria and Chita has stopped for  
the time being. The despatch of trains  
with troops, however, is going on without  
delay and all military traffic is unin-  
terrupted.—Euter.

## ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

## FIRST AID EXAMINATION.

At an examination in First Aid, held  
by Deputy Surgeon General Draper,  
R.N., at the Naval Hospital on  
Friday, candidates qualified as be-  
low:

"Bar" to Medalion.—(5th Examina-  
tion).—Mrs. Mansfield and Mrs.  
Ralphs.

Medalion.—(3rd Examination).—Mrs.  
Bowley, Miss Denison, Miss Hast-  
ings, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Keigwin,  
and Mrs. Lesak.

Certificates.—(1st Examination).—Mrs.  
Milner Jones.  
Mrs. McGregor, M.B., B.Ch., acted as  
Hon. Lecturer.



# MILITARY SERVICE TRIBUNAL

## CONSIDERATION OF TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS.

A meeting of the Military Service Tribunal was held in the Council Chamber yesterday, when applications for total exemption or a further extension of time were made by six of the men who had been granted temporary exemption by the Tribunal in July last. In the absence from the Colony of the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., the Chief Justice, Sir William Ross Davies, K.C., acted as Chairman. The members present were the Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Commander C. W. Beckwith, R.N., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Passy, R.G.A., and Messrs. W. Adamson, G. S. Archbutt, T. F. Hough, A. O. Lang and G. M. Young. Mr. A. Dyer Ball carried out the duties of Clerk to the Tribunal in place of Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher. Major Morgan was present as the military representative.

The following were the results of the Tribunal's consideration of the applications.

- E. E. de W. Abney—six months' extension.
- W. E. L. Shenton—six months' extension.
- W. B. Hind—three months' extension.
- P. J. Taylor—total exemption.
- G. Blair—three months' extension.
- A. Leach—total exemption.

### MR. E. E. DE W. ABNEY.

The first case called was that of E. E. de W. Abney, of Messrs. Thos. Cook & Co. The CHAIRMAN (addressing Mr. Abney) said:—In July last you applied for total exemption and you relied on the reasons which were very fully set out in your firm's letter as justifying your total exemption either in Imperial interests or in the essential interests of the Colony. The Tribunal, after fully considering the matter, granted you three months' exemption to make arrangements so that someone could fill your place in the event of your going on active service. Since then letters have been received from Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, who, I think, have been acting as your solicitors, and these letters have been read, and carefully considered, by all members of the Tribunal.

A letter from Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, dated August 14th, states that you are acting as Chief Manager for a communication to the effect that it is altogether impossible for any man to be procured in England to act as a substitute in the Far East, that the staff in London is reduced to the minimum, every man of military age having left the employ of the firm for the time being. Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, continuing, remark that the only possible part of the world from which men may be obtained is America, and they request that if the person in charge of the Peking branch was transferred and the business there closed, or one of the few remaining assistants brought down from Shanghai, such a man would be similarly liable to conscription in Hongkong notwithstanding the fact, as they understand it, that those men have already been exempted by the Tribunal in the North. The letter goes on to say that the firm's shipping business is carried on more in the interests than to meet the mere convenience of those for the time being in the distant parts of the Empire, and, furthermore, that the travelling agency, although a very important part of the business is only a portion of it, the business consisting to a large extent of banking. Then, continuing the Chairman said:—The letter is a very interesting one, and it is suggested that the matter be referred to the Tribunal for consideration. To-day we are simply here to decide whether there are any new grounds, or any special grounds, to justify the Tribunal in altering the decision which it arrived at in the first instance. You would like to add, Mr. Abney?

Mr. ABNEY—I have a letter here from the Manager stating that they cannot get any assistance from America.

The CHAIRMAN read an extract from the letter to the effect that it had been found impossible to arrange with New York to provide two assistants, as was hoped, for the Far East. It was suggested that the matter be referred to the Tribunal for consideration. To-day we are simply here to decide whether there are any new grounds, or any special grounds, to justify the Tribunal in altering the decision which it arrived at in the first instance. You would like to add, Mr. Abney?

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Mr. ABNEY—I have a letter here from the Manager stating that they cannot get any assistance from America.

The Tribunal considered its decision in private and, subsequently, when Mr. Abney was recalled, the Chairman, addressing him, said—The Tribunal decides that you be granted a further six months' exemption to give the firm a further opportunity of finding a substitute. This is not to be regarded in the light of a final exemption.

Mr. ABNEY—If I cannot get anyone to take my place can I come before the Tribunal again?

The CHAIRMAN—At the expiration of the six months the Tribunal will hear you further, if required, but the decision is "a further exemption of six months, not to be regarded in the light of a final exemption."

### MR. W. E. L. SHENTON.

The case of Mr. W. E. L. Shenton, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon & Harrison, was then considered. Mr. Shenton was accompanied by Mr. Looker.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Shenton)—The Tribunal decided, on the last occasion you came before it, to send you on service, but to give you exemption for three months. Since that time certain letters have been addressed to the Tribunal by your firm. In a letter dated September 25th, your firm says:—"Mr. Shenton was given three months' exemption with leave to apply again. Mr. Shenton has been working on the search-lights for a long time and recently he was requested by Captain Russell to apply for a commission as 2nd Lieutenant for the duration of the war." That application has been forwarded and the matter is now being considered by the Military Authorities. The Tribunal understands, however, that the temporary commission applied for is in the Defence Corps and not in the Regular Forces.

Mr. SHENTON—I do not know.

The CHAIRMAN—With regard to that matter the Tribunal thought it desirable to ask the military representative, Major Morgan, if such application was likely to be favourably received.

Major Morgan—I have just seen Colonel Young and the application is only for a temporary commission in the Defence Corps. It is not for a commission in the Regular Army. I do not think a commission would be granted in the Defence Corps to be held as a reason for Mr. Shenton's exemption.

The CHAIRMAN—What position does Mr. Shenton hold now?

Major Morgan—Sergeant in the Engineer Company.

Mr. SHENTON—The form of my application was left in the hands of Captain Russell. Whether it is in the correct form I do not know.

Asked whether he wished to address the Tribunal, Mr. Looker remarked that he had nothing to add to that which was in the firm's letter or to what he said at the last hearing of the case by the Tribunal. Since the letter had been written he had found it necessary for urgent domestic reasons, to proceed to America in December. It would be impossible to carry on with both himself and Mr. Shenton away.

The CHAIRMAN—When is Mr. Shenton expected to return?

Mr. LOOKER—At the end of November. I cannot go until he returns. He was coming back earlier, only the boat was taken off.

The CHAIRMAN—Can you state for how long you will be absent from the Colony?

Mr. LOOKER—I hope to get back here in the beginning of the Summer.

The CHAIRMAN—You ask for a further period of exemption on the ground of domestic reasons?

Mr. LOOKER—In part and in part on other grounds. What we ask for is total exemption.

The CHAIRMAN—You have asked for that. So far as this Tribunal is concerned it has already given a decision on that point.

Mr. LOOKER—Exemption was granted with liberty to apply again.

The CHAIRMAN—If there was any question as to the wisdom or unwisdom of the decision you could have appealed. The question now is whether there are any new or sufficient grounds to justify the Tribunal in departing from its original decision. You have put forward urgent domestic reasons. Apart from those you have no further grounds to urge.

Mr. LOOKER—As regards the appeal, we lodged an appeal immediately the decision was given, but we subsequently heard that the proper course, when given exemption, was to wait until the period had expired and apply again, and then, if necessary, appeal. That is why we did not appeal. The same grounds put forward at the first hearing apply now, apart from the domestic grounds. We have been so driven recently that it becomes rather difficult to carry on.

After the Tribunal had considered the matter in private, the Chairman, addressing Mr. Shenton, said—Owing to the forthcoming necessary absence of Mr. Looker, the Tribunal grants you a further exemption of six months.

### MR. W. B. HIND.

The case of Mr. W. B. Hind, of Messrs. G. K. Hall Brutton & Co., was then considered.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Hind)—At the meeting of the Tribunal on July 8th you were granted three months' exemption to enable you to put forward any grounds for further exemption at the expiration of that time. You have not advanced any further reasons for exemption.

Mr. HIND—I was given three months' exemption with liberty to apply again.

The CHAIRMAN—The official minutes do not say so, but you are going to apply again.

Mr. HIND—Those words were used and they appeared in the Daily Press the next morning. I am the only European in the firm. When Mr. Brutton went away he left me in charge. He was over military age and he would not have gone if he had thought there was any likelihood of my being taken. It was because I had already been rejected that Mr. Brutton went. I was rejected on two occasions—early in December, 1914, and in April, 1915.

The CHAIRMAN—Have you had any communication from Mr. Brutton regarding the possibility of his returning?

Mr. HIND—I wrote to Mr. Brutton immediately after the last Tribunal. I have scarcely had time to receive a reply yet.

The CHAIRMAN—If there is no possibility of Mr. Brutton returning there is no object in granting you temporary exemption. We should have to hold that it was in the essential interests of the Colony that your firm should continue, or that you, at any rate, should not be taken from it, if we were to grant you exemption.

Mr. HIND—I would point out that the percentage of men taken from the legal profession in Hongkong is much greater than the percentage taken in England. According to the *Law Journal* of March 1913 10 per cent. of the members of the legal profession in England had been taken and official instructions were given that as far as solicitors and their skilled clerks were concerned the numbers should not be further depleted except for very special reasons. In Hongkong about one-seventh of the members of the legal profession have gone.

The CHAIRMAN—You applied some time ago to be allowed to go?

Mr. HIND—In December, 1914, and in April, 1915. On both occasions I was turned down on account of my eyesight.

The CHAIRMAN—You have a Chinese solicitor in your firm, have you not?

Mr. HIND—Yes. We had four solicitors in the office when the war started.

The CHAIRMAN—Is he a partner?

Mr. HIND—A salaried partner.

The CHAIRMAN—He does mainly the Chinese work?

Mr. HIND—I attend to practically all litigation. He attends to conveyancing. Our practice is mostly Chinese commercial litigation and I may say that the work has considerably increased during the last year.

The CHAIRMAN—Have you communicated with anyone else besides Mr. Brutton?

Mr. HIND—I cabled to England and received a cable reply that it was impossible to get men. I thought of India, but I did not cable because people in Hongkong were getting cables from India asking them to go there.

The Tribunal considered the matter in private, and, subsequently, the Chairman, addressing Mr. Hind, said—Not having heard from your principal the Tribunal agrees to extend your exemption for three months. The Tribunal will not be disposed to extend it further.

### MR. P. J. TAYLOR.

The case of Mr. P. J. Taylor, of the Dairy Farm Company, was then considered. Mr. Looker appeared on behalf of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Taylor)—On July 17th the Tribunal granted you an exemption for three months so as to enable you to put forward any further grounds for your total exemption.

Mr. LOOKER—I am rather astonished at hearing you say, sir, that the Tribunal gave Mr. Taylor three months' exemption to enable him to find fresh grounds.

The CHAIRMAN—I will read the minutes.

"Mr. Looker applied for six months' exemption in order that the Company might have a better opportunity of finding a man to replace him, but the Chairman, after pointing out that it was possible to apply for an extension when the time came, if there were good grounds, announced that the Tribunal could not grant the request then."

Mr. LOOKER—Ah, yes, that is quite right. We have made every endeavour to find an engineer to replace Mr. Taylor. We applied to Mr. Jenkin and he furnished us with the names of three engineers. One failed to keep an appointment, another withdrew his application after two or three days, and the third, as Mr. Jenkin agreed, was quite unsuitable, as he had had no experience of suction gas engines or refrigerating engines. It is quite impossible to obtain an engineer of any description in the Colony, particularly one who has had experience in suction gas or refrigerating engines. We have found it impossible to obtain anyone to replace Mr. Taylor and the Company cannot spare him without shutting down their plant, which would interfere with the food supply of the Colony and of the military authorities. The Company asks for total exemption, or for a further extension to try again to get someone in his place, although the hope of succeeding is very faint. I think the Tribunal will probably have noticed from the letter before them that a recent breakdown in the machinery involved an expenditure of \$800. The machinery needs careful watching.

The CHAIRMAN—The Company is about to make extensions in the cold storage business.

Mr. LOOKER—The Company is making considerable extensions for the frozen food supply, and, of course, the food supply becomes more important every day.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Taylor is an expert engineer?

Mr. LOOKER—Yes. He was originally engaged on a ship with refrigerating machinery, and he has been in charge of the Company's works for four years. The machinery is very old and Mr. Taylor knows all its little tricks and troubles. We are entirely dependant upon him to keep it going both for food and ice.

The CHAIRMAN—Is Mr. Harton still in the firm?

Mr. LOOKER—No. He is not now in the Colony.

In reply to Comdr. Beckwith, Mr. Taylor said his engineer's certificate was that of "extra chief."

Mr. LOOKER—I don't know whether Commander Beckwith can supply us with the names of competent engineers to enable us to let Mr. Taylor go. We shall be very glad to have them if he can.

Further questions were raised regarding Mr. Harton's competency to take charge of the machinery had he been in the Colony. Mr. Looker remarked that the Company had not sufficient confidence in Mr. Harton to place him in charge. Mr. Landale replied that Mr. Harton was quite capable of doing the work, only the management did not want him.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Taylor)—Are you the only engineer?

Mr. TAYLOR—Yes.

Hon. Mr. LANDALE—You have an engineer at Lai-chi-kok.

Mr. LOOKER—Yes, but Mr. Taylor is the only engineer on this side and as I explained to the Tribunal last time one engineer cannot possibly run the machinery on both sides.

After the Tribunal had considered the matter in private, the Chairman announced that Mr. Taylor would be granted total exemption.

MR. G. BLAIR.

Mr. G. Blair, of Messrs. Martini & Co., was then called.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Blair)—You are in the firm of Martini, Ltd., and on July 29th the Tribunal granted you temporary exemption until October 12th, in order that you might make arrangements. It was suggested at the time that as you have a large staff in Manila one of the men from there might be sent to take your place. Since that hearing Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, acting on your behalf, have addressed a letter to the Tribunal, in which they state that the firm have very properly used their best endeavours to obtain someone to take your place. The firm were in negotiation with one man in Shanghai, but the negotiations broke down because the man had to leave the country on account of his health. They have made enquiries in the United States and Switzerland, but so far have received no definite statement. The staff in Manila has been depleted by five members who held responsible positions and are now on active service with the Italian army. You are the only British subject in the firm?

Mr. BLAIR—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—Your solicitors ask, in the event of permanent exemption not being granted, that you be granted a further extension of three or four months. Do you yourself think the firm will be able to make arrangements?

Mr. BLAIR—About two weeks ago I went to Manila to see my manager upon the subject. It was decided more or less that if I was not exempted and it was impossible to get another man, to close down the office in Hongkong, or, rather, to transfer the business to an agency. I may say that the firm in Hongkong has obligations to the banks and Chinese clients which must be fulfilled, sooner or later, and it would be rather awkward if I was taken away in a week or a fortnight for the firm to have these obligations hanging over its head.

The CHAIRMAN—If you are granted exemption for a few months you think you will be able to find a substitute?

Mr. BLAIR—I will try to arrange to get away in three months' time if you say I may go then. We carry a large amount of stock which cannot be thrown into the street.

The CHAIRMAN—You only ask for temporary exemption?

Mr. BLAIR—I ask for none at all personally. I shall be only too glad to go. My firm asks for exemption.

The Tribunal considered the matter in private, and, subsequently, the Chairman, addressing Mr. Blair, said—The Tribunal grants you three months' further exemption to enable you to clear up your outstanding obligations.

MR. A. LEACH.

The case of Mr. A. Leach, of the Vacuum Oil Company, was the last taken. Mr. Geare, the local manager, appeared on behalf of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Leach)—In your case two months' exemption was given at the request of the General Manager until Mr. Jenkins returned from Australia. You yourself expressed a desire to go. Mr. Jenkins has not returned, has he?

Mr. LEACH—He has returned.

The CHAIRMAN—You are desirous of going now?

Mr. LEACH—The Company wish to keep me.

The CHAIRMAN—The Tribunal has received a private letter which the Company do not desire to have published. In it a request is made for your total exemption.

Mr. LEACH—Inasmuch as we have lost four men since the case was last heard. Two men have resigned. Mr. Stark has now gone and Mr. Biech is going home. Mr. Congdon has gone and I came to release him. There is only Mr. Leach and Mr. Jenkins besides myself.

The CHAIRMAN—Since the previous application circumstances have entirely changed.

Mr. LEACH—Unfortunately, if we had not lost these men we would not have asked for the exemption of Mr. Leach.

The CHAIRMAN—You have a branch at Manila, have you not? Could you not transfer a man from there?

Mr. LEACH—We have no man there who understands the work.

The CHAIRMAN—And you say conscription is likely to be enforced in Manila?

Mr. LEACH—Yes. We are liable to lose one or two men there.

In reply to a further question, Mr. Geare said Mr. Congdon left the Colony owing to the death of his father and for reasons connected with his father's business.

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Leach)—You have had experience as a soldier?

(Continued at foot of next column.)

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## EVERYTHING for CHILDREN

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for

BOYS AND GIRLS.

Mr. LEACH—Yes. The CHAIRMAN—He is worth more than a man without experience.

Mr. GEARE—I quite appreciate that. If there was any way of getting out of asking for total exemption I would take it. We have lost four men who we thought would remain with the Company.

Lieut.-Col. Passy—Why have they gone?

Mr. GEARE—One was transferred from Ceylon to Java and he was dissatisfied with the amount of money he was receiving. He came to Hongkong and Mr. Congdon could not give what he wanted and so he quit. Another man from South Africa was sent to Siam. He did

not like it and simply quit. Mr. Stark has gone home. Mr. Biech is leaving for private reasons; he is unfit and over-age.

The CHAIRMAN—What have you done with your men in Singapore?

Mr. GEARE—There is only one European there now. He is 70 years of age. I think I used to be in Singapore.

In answer to the Chairman, Major Morgan claimed non-exemption.

After the Tribunal had deliberated in private, the Chairman announced that the Tribunal would grant Mr. Leach total exemption.

This concluded the public business.







# THE WAR.

## FIGHTING FROM ST. QUENTIN TO RHEIMS.

### FATE OF CAMBRAI SEALED.

#### DESPERATE RESISTANCE OF THE ENEMY.

### GERMANS RETREATING FROM ROUMANIA.

### BULGARIAN PEACE PROPOSAL.

### GREAT BRITAIN'S REPLY.

#### BRITISH AND ENEMY PRESS COMMENT.

#### Franco-Belgian Front

##### LATEST CABLES.

##### [THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

##### BRITISH FRONT.

##### "DOUGHBOYS" SURPRISE THE GERMANS.

LONDON, September 29th.

The Canadians, after crossing the Nord Canal, expected heavy fighting, but were genuinely disgusted to find that the Germans had bolted beyond effective rifle range.

Cambrai now lies at our feet and is dominated by our field-guns.

The appearance of American infantry at the other end of the battlefield must have been a nasty surprise, as the enemy would scarcely expect the "Doughboys" so far from the West.

Prisoners report that there is very great confusion among the enemy reserves, who are hopelessly scattered and mixed with other units.

There is a continuous stream of enemy transport eastward, also fires behind the German lines. It is impossible yet to tell how far the latter have been caused by our artillery.

Great masses of our troops rested at night-time in the spacious shelters of the Hindenburg system.

##### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.15 p.m.

A wireless German official report states:—British and Belgians attacked from southward of Dixmude as far as Wulverghem, and captured our crater positions, and in places advanced into our artillery lines.

We held the Wytshate heights against repeated attacks.

We withdrew westward of Cambrai, owing to the loss of the Canal position astride Marquion.

We withdrew behind the Oise-Aisne Canal between Anizy-le-Chateau and Bourg.

LONDON, September 30th.

12.50 p.m.

A wireless German official evening report states:—There were fresh engagements eastward of Ypres and tremendous fighting between Cambrai and St. Quentin, the English assault failing on the whole.

##### KING ALBERT IN COMMAND.

PARIS, September 29th.

A despatch from the Belgian front states that King Albert commanded the Belgian and Second British Armies which attacked on a front of 13 miles between south of Ypres and Lake Blankert.

After carrying the first German positions and Houthulst Forest they assaulted the Flanders hills forming the second German position.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

##### CAPTURE OF GOUZEAUCOURT

##### AND MARCOING.

LONDON, September 29th.

1.00 a.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The operations on the Cambrai battle front progressed favourably.

On the right the Fifth and Forty-Second Divisions had heavy fighting last night about the Beaucamp ridge, where the enemy counter-attacked strongly.

This morning they overcame enemy resistance in this locality and pressed forward two miles beyond, capturing the highly organised defences called the "Highland" and "Welsh" ridges.

Later, our success was extended southwards, capturing Gouzeaucourt.

The Sixty-Second Yorkshire Division captured Marcoing, and progressed south-eastward of that town.

The Fifth Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment forced the crossings of the Canal-de-Lescout at Marcoing and established itself in the German defences on the east bank.

Northwards, the Second and Fifty-Seventh Lancashire Divisions cleared the west bank of the Canal as far north as Le Folie Joute, and captured Noyelles-sur-Escaut, Cantaing, and Fontaine Notre-Dame.

The Lancashires are progressing eastward of Fontaine Notre-Dame and are co-operating with the Canadians northward of the Bapaume-Cambrai road. Here the enemy resisted strongly and lost heavily in killed and prisoners.

Northward of the Arras-Cambrai road the Canadian and English troops steadily advanced on the west and north. Strong hostile counter-attacks at Railleucourt last evening were beaten back with loss.

To-day the Canadians took possession of Raillencourt and Sully, also the trench system running through these villages.

Further north the Fifty-Sixth London Division entered Palluel.

The total of prisoners and guns captured continue to increase.

##### AERIAL OPERATIONS.

Our aeroplanes, yesterday, heavily machine-gunned enemy troops and transport at the canal crossing and on the roads.

Many explosions and fires were observed on hostile battery positions as a result of our artillery fire.

One thousand photographs were taken, and we effectively bombed several aerodromes and railway junctions, in addition to extensive bombing just behind the lines.

Thirty tons of bombs were dropped during the day-time and 18½ tons of bombs at night-time.

We destroyed eight balloons and shot down 23 enemy aeroplanes and drove down 20 uncontrollable. Nineteen of our machines are missing.

##### BRITISH AND AMERICANS

##### ATTACK.

LONDON, September 29th.

1.25 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The British and Americans attacked north-westward of St. Quentin this morning.

The British have captured 18,000 prisoners since the morning of September 27th.

##### BRITISH AND AMERICANS IN

##### HEAVY FIGHTING.

LONDON, September 29th.

2.10 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The British and Americans attacked at 5.50 this morning north-westward of St. Quentin.

The battle is proceeding fiercely along the whole front from St. Quentin to the Scarpe.

Heavy fighting occurred yesterday about Gonnelleu and the "Welsh" ridge. We progressed on the high ground south-westward of Gonnelleu, but were pressed back slightly at the "Welsh" ridge.

We again attacked this morning, made progress and took prisoners.

At Marcoing we enlarged our bridgehead position eastward of Canal-de-Lescout and drove off a hostile counter-attack, taking prisoners.

Further north English naval units established themselves eastward of l'Escaut river, opposite Cantaing.

Northward of the Bapaume-Cambrai road the Canadians took possession of the defence system known as the Marcoing-Masnières line as far north as Sully.

The English troops completed the capture of Aubencheul, Aubign and Palluel, and are fighting in Arleux.

We crossed the Trinquart river in the neighbourhood of Sully-en-Ostrevent.

The British have captured over 16,000 prisoners since the morning of September 27th.

##### BRITISH AND BELGIANS ATTACK

##### IN FLANDERS.

LONDON, September 29th.

A Belgian communiqué states:—At dawn yesterday the Belgian wing attacked the German positions between Dixmude and north of Ypres.

The attack began with a violent artillery preparation lasting some hours, in which there participated, in co-operation with Belgian batteries, numerous French and British warships, which bombarded the coast defences of the enemy and vulnerable points of his communications.

After the preparation, our infantry moved forward and attacked strongly the organised German positions, vying with each other in courage.

Our troops carried all the organisations of the defensive lines on the enemy's front position and passed on without a stop to attack the second strongly-organised position of the enemy.

In spite of the enemy's resistance and vain counter-attacks, which were launched particularly astride the railway at Staden, our infantry captured practically the whole of the Houthulst Forest zone, which the Germans had strongly fortified during the last four years, and all the ground extending to a line marked by the localities Woumen, Pierken-shoek, Schaepelie, and Brodsende.

An advance was made of about six kilometres. Numerous prisoners have been brought in, the total for the Belgians being 4,000.

The guns have so far not been counted, but they include a complete battery and crew, as well as some guns of very large calibre.

Considerable material was captured.

The number of German dead lying on the field of battle is evidence of the enemy's losses.

##### SCALING THE CANAL DU NORD.

LONDON, September 29th.

6.50 a.m.

Mr. Percival Phillips, at British Headquarters, telegraphs:—The attack which rolled up the German defences west and south-west of Cambrai was more difficult and more dangerous than the first rupture of the Hindenburg Line in the same area ten months ago. It was necessary to throw troops across the dry ravine called the Nord Canal, 60 feet deep and 70 feet wide at the top, with sloping sides of brick, under fire from machine-guns and artillery, which could be crossed only at certain places.

The accomplishment of this feat was most remarkable, as a deep bed of mud prevented its passage at some parts. Surface bridges were impossible, because every yard of the Canal was raged; therefore, certain narrow routes were arranged. The men assembled in the darkness with scaling-ladders, which they flung across at a fixed moment, when a handful of soldiers descended the yawning chasm, taking other scaling-ladders, up which they had to climb to face the machine-guns on the other side. Prisoners declared that the enemy had expected the attack, yet he failed to hold the Canal or the ground behind it, and the stormers climbed up and poured into the region of craters, a smoke barrage ahead of them confusing the enemy, who could be seen running from one trench to the next to escape the irresistible onslaught.

##### BATTLE FRUITFUL OF

##### SURPRISES.

LONDON, September 29th.

1.15 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing last evening, states:—To-day we got our teeth into the Hindenburg Line in a more determined manner than heretofore and broke down a long chain of formidable resistance.

The battle has been more fruitful in surprises than any of its predecessors. Thus, we expected a formidable resistance crossing the canal; instead, we crossed it very easily, subsequently intercepting enemy bombing parties hurrying up to contest the crossing. Moreover, the German artillery firing, with a few local exceptions, was inconsiderable. On the other hand, prisoners say our barrage was not war, but murder, our smoke barrages covering the infantry very effectively.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing at 9 o'clock last evening, states:—The whole enemy front from St. Quentin to Rheims has become a salient, the bases of which are being vigorously attacked on both sides and on both wings. He is fighting with the energy of despair.

The enemy began to retreat on the front Laffaux-Malmaison, the plateau from which Chemin-des-Dames runs eastward to Craonne and touches the Ailette. As a result of General Mangin's advance yesterday the whole of the Malmaison plateau and the western end of Chemin-des-Dames for about 1,500 yards are in our possession. The enemy is here, after fighting desperately for weeks to keep them, abandoning the approaches to the massif of St. Gobain on the Enon plateau. That is, on the group of heights which for four years formed the central pillar of his line in France. The strategy of Marshal Foch compels him, as it did on the Marne, to withdraw his centre before the Allies' attack north and east; he has forced him to withdraw his wings. This retreat is the first fruit of the French, British and American offensive during the last three days.

Our airmen, again in good visibility, have done wonderful work. Our casualties are believed to be very light.

##### REMARKABLE BRITISH

##### PROGRESS.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.05 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing this morning, states:—Yesterday's battle on the Cambrai front gained in magnitude, and the whole of our day's objectives was attained to an extreme depth of five miles through the most formidable and most intricate network of enemy defences the war has yet produced. So remarkable was our progress that we brought up not only field batteries but heavy sixty-pounders to the western fringe of Bourlon Wood, and we were raking the wood before the Germans had completed their rearguard withdrawal from the eastern edge.

Our converging tactics worked so admirably that large bodies of Germans were taken in the rear. The tanks were very useful in clearing the machine-gun thickets of Quarry Wood and quelling attempted street fighting in Bourlon village.

##### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.05 p.m.

A wireless German official report states:—Sixteen English and Canadian divisions attacked astride and between the Arras-Cambrai and Peronne-Cambrai roads.

The enemy advanced towards Bourlon and Flequiers. He extended these breaches and pressed us back northward of the Arras-Cambrai road as far as the Oisy-le-Verger-Baynecourt line.

##### THE PASSAGE OF THE CANAL.

PARIS, September 29th.

A Havas Correspondent at the British front, describing the passage of the dry Nord Canal, says it was a most formidable obstacle, being 120 feet wide and 45 feet deep and could only be crossed at three points. The Canadians since September had held the bridgehead at Marquion and the British acquired a second bridgehead at Havincourt. It remained to find a method of crossing the canal in the centre and to attack in the direction of Mouvaux, where there is no bridgehead. When artillery by dawn had destroyed the masonry on the banks, several superannuated tanks, on the top of which was the necessary gear for construction of a bridge, were launched, while Chaco fighting tanks crossed at their backs. At Marquion and Havincourt the Canal was crossed most gallantly. The bridgeheads were under fire during the whole operation. Picked men were entrusted with the delicate and dangerous task. They included Canadians, Naval Brigade, Scots and Guards. The enemy forces confronting them consisted of nine Divisions, two of which, defending the Havincourt sector, consisted of chosen troops.

##### LATEST CABLES.

##### FRENCH FRONT.

##### VIOLENT ENEMY ATTACKS

##### BROKEN.

PARIS, September 29th.

A communiqué states:—North of the Aisne the pursuit was continued at night-time.

We occupied the forest of Pinon and reached the Ailette in these regions, also east of Chavignon.

On the Oisel-Chavignon front the enemy is more lively in resisting our advance.

In Champagne the violent attacks launched by the enemy yesterday were broken.

We resumed progress, particularly north of Gratreuil, where we took possession of the Bellevue Heights.

##### ENEMY FIGHTING WITH ENERGY

##### OF DESPAIR.

LONDON, September 29th.

8.50 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing at 9 o'clock last evening, states:—The whole enemy front from St. Quentin to Rheims has become a salient, the bases of which are being vigorously attacked on both sides and on both wings. He is fighting with the energy of despair.

The enemy began to retreat on the front Laffaux-Malmaison, the plateau from which Chemin-des-Dames runs eastward to Craonne and touches the Ailette. As a result of General Mangin's advance yesterday the whole of the Malmaison plateau and the western end of Chemin-des-Dames for about 1,500 yards are in our possession. The enemy is here, after fighting desperately for weeks to keep them, abandoning the approaches to the massif of St. Gobain on the Enon plateau. That is, on the group of heights which for four years formed the central pillar of his line in France. The strategy of Marshal Foch compels him, as it did on the Marne, to withdraw his centre before the Allies' attack north and east; he has forced him to withdraw his wings. This retreat is the first fruit of the French, British and American offensive during the last three days.

##### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.15 p.m.

A German wireless official report states:—The French captured Sommepey.

We withdrew in Argonne as far as Recon, south-eastward of Binerville and south-westward of Apremont.

The Americans pressed us back as far as Cunel Wood and Cays.

LONDON, September 30th.

12.50 p.m.

A wireless German official evening report states:—Violent French and American attacks in Champagne and between Argonne and the Meuse were repulsed, except for local breaches on both sides of Ardouil.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

##### FRENCH CAPTURE SOMMEPEY.

PARIS, September 29th.

A communiqué states:—This morning the attack was resumed at 5.30.

Our troops captured St. Illages and Sommepey and carried the heights northward of Fontaine-en-Dormois.

We have taken more prisoners and guns. The battle continues.

Between the Ailette and the Aisne the pressure of our troops was continued at night-time and this morning.

North-eastwards of Saney vigorous local operations gave us ground and 250 prisoners, including 40 officers.

A hostile counter-attack north of Aiffant completely failed.

Further southwards we penetrated the ravine from Jouy to Aizy, and we occupied these two villages.

##### ENEMY RETIRES TOWARDS THE

##### AILETTE.

PARIS, September 29th.

A communiqué states:—Our repeated attacks on the plateau north of the Aisne finally forced the enemy to retire towards the Ailette.

Pursuing the German rearguards east of the line Allennant-Jouy, we occupied a village and the southern outskirts of the Forest Pinon, and captured Vaudezon, Chavignon, and Fort Malmaison.

Further south we progressed considerably on this plateau north of Vailly.

The Germans in Champagne furiously counter-attacked on our right, and desperate fighting is proceeding in the Bouconville region on the heights south of Gratreuil.

Our troops in the centre and left have continued to progress, particularly north of the Challeranges Railway, and they captured Maures and reached the eastern outskirts of St. Marie-a-Py.

Our losses were slight.

Nine German aeroplanes were felled in air fighting.

Lieut. Fonek felled six aeroplanes on Thursday.

##### AMERICANS CAPTURE OVER

##### TWENTY TOWNS.

LONDON, September 29th.

2.45 a.m.

An American communiqué states:—Our attack was continued successfully. To-day we advanced, despite heavy infantry, artillery and machine-gun fire, and reached the outskirts of Briculles and Exermont.

We captured over 20 towns and enormous quantities of material.

The number of prisoners increases. American aviators command the air. They brought down 12 balloons and more than 600 planes. The American planes missing number under 20.

Despite the unfavourable weather, our aviators successfully executed their missions.

##### ENEMY DEFENDING ON VAST

##### SCALE.

LONDON, September 29th.

11.15 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—The Germans are evacuating the ravine between Sully and Chemin-des-Dames.

The French have occupied Jouy and Aizy, and are advancing.

Numerous fires have been observed behind the German lines in that region and further south along the north bank of the Aisne.

The British and Belgian attack in the north, coupled with the French and American attack in Champagne, Argonne and on the Meuse, has compelled the enemy to defend on a much vaster scale than "pocket" such as those which brought him to disaster on the Marne and the Aisne.

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##### ENEMY'S MAIN LINE OF

##### RESISTANCE.

LONDON, September 29th.

12.50 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters yesterday, states:—The Champagne battle was resumed this morning.

We have now arrived at the enemy's main line of resistance, which is very hard around Sommepey, on the river Py, which runs two miles north of the line at Buttes, which we captured yesterday.

The arrival of French infantry on the banks of the river marks the successful termination of the first phase of the attack, which is being pressed with unremitting vigour.

This morning the line ran west and east from a point south of Sommepey to Gratreuil, thence south of the Cernay Woods. It marks an advance of five or six miles over extraordinarily difficult ground.

##### GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.05 p.m.

A wireless German official report states:—We repulsed strong British and American attacks between Epehy and Bellicourt, driving back the enemy beyond his starting-point at L'Empire.

The French gained a little ground between the Sappes river and the Aisne. East of Argonne the American attacks were brought to a standstill south of the Apremont-Mont Chier line.

We evacuated Mont Faucon, in view of its being threatened with encirclement.

##### Italian Front.

##### LATEST CABLES.

##### [THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

##### ITALIANS OVERCOME OBSTINATE

##### DEFENCE.

LONDON, September 29th.

7.15 p.m.

An Italian Macedonia official report states we overcame an obstinate defence, advanced across the rugged massif of Mt. Baba, and we have broken the strong resistance of the enemy rearguards in the region westward of Krusovo.

We continued our forward march seizing the Krusovo-Cor road and occupied Prilichki and Kocista.

(Continued on Page 6.)



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STUBBORN COUGHS

BRONCHITIS  
WEAK LUNGS  
CATARRH

CONSUMPTION

## THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

## The Near East.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE CAMPAIGN IN PALESTINE  
TOTAL BRITISH CAPTURES.

CAIRO, September 29th.  
The British captures in Palestine so far  
are 50,000 prisoners and 325 guns.

## Russian front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

## RUSSIAN FRONT.

SOVIET TROOPS RETIRING.

AMSTERDAM, September 29th.

A message from Moscow states:—A  
Russian communiqué, dated September  
25th, admits fighting on the northern  
front unfavourable to the Soviet troops,  
who are retiring at various points.

Strong forces of Czech-Slovaks on the  
eastern front are advancing on Alajevsk  
from two sides.

## The Balkans.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

## BALKANS FRONT.

GREEK SUCCESS.

LONDON, September 29th.  
5.00 p.m.

A Greek communiqué states:—The  
Greeks "reached the Beles ridge and  
occupied the roud debouching from the  
ridge to northward of Lake Doiran."

## BULGARIAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 29th.  
5.00 p.m.

A Bulgarian communiqué, dated Sep-  
tember 28th, states:—Bulgarian units  
westward of the Vardar continue their  
movement northward according to plan.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH AND GREEK ADVANCE  
CONTINUES.

LONDON, September 29th.  
8.10 p.m.

A British official Salonika report  
states:—The advance continues.  
The Greeks are pushing eastwards  
along the Belachista Range, and the  
British and Greeks are moving on Petric  
along the Strumitsa Valley.

Several guns have been captured.

BULGARIAN RETREAT  
ENDANGERED.

LONDON, September 29th.  
8.35 p.m.

The Greek occupation of Mount Beles  
permits the Greeks to descend into the  
valley of the Strumitsa and thereby cut  
off the Bulgarian retreat by this route.

The Greek and British forces are  
approaching Rupel Pass, the occupation  
of which would also cut off the Bulgarian  
retreat on the Struma front by the main  
road over the Kresna Pass. This is a  
repetition of the operations carried out  
in 1913 by the Greek and Serbians  
against the Bulgarians.

## ALLIED MILITARY SITUATION

THE BALKANS.

LONDON, September 29th.

Reuter's Agency learns that the  
Serbian Cavalry are pushing on to  
Jamaat-Baala with a view to cutting  
the Sofia-Drama railway. If successful  
the whole of the Bulgarians east of  
Strumitsa will be cut off from Sofia and  
the main line of communication.

Prisoners continue to increase.

This new advance definitely relieves the  
line up the Vardar Valley from enemy  
fire.

The situation looks very promising.  
Very heavy fighting is proceeding out-  
side Velez.

The Bulgarians are doing their utmost  
to save Uskub, of which the Serbian  
Cavalry are within ten miles.

## TOTAL ALLIED CAPTURES.

LONDON, September 29th.

Since July 18th, the Allies have taken  
over 300,000 prisoners, 3,000 guns, 20,000  
machine-guns and huge quantities of  
material. This does not include the pri-  
soners taken in Palestine, Macedonia and  
Mesopotamia.

## WESTERN FRONT.

LONDON, September 29th.

The British advance reached a  
maximum depth of three miles.  
The Hindenburg outposts were crossed  
at a number of points.

The line at mid-day ran from south-  
west of Gouzescourt eastwards of  
Beauchamp, westwards of Marcoing and  
eastwards of Graincourt, where some of  
the enemy were holding out; thence be-  
tween Annex and Cantaine eastwards  
of Bourlon Wood and village; thence to  
the Arras-Cambrai road, about one  
thousand yards west of Railencourt; then  
along the road to Marquain, the posses-  
sion of which is doubtful.

The capture of Bourlon is of the  
greatest importance, as it is the bulwark  
of Cambrai. It was carried, despite the  
waterline, the whole of which we crossed.  
We are now in a good position to  
capture Cambrai.

Even as matters stand the enemy will  
be unable to use Cambrai as a railway  
or road junction.

## FRANCO-AMERICAN FRONT.

Very hard fighting is proceeding on the  
French and American front. The enemy  
at mid-day was still holding out at  
Mont Faucon.

The number of prisoners is 18,000 and  
over 50 guns have been captured.

## SERBIANS ENTER VELES.

LONDON, September 29th.

A French Eastern communiqué states:  
—General progress was made on the  
whole front on September 27th, with im-  
portant captures of prisoners and mater-  
ial, the Allies' left wing breaking down  
the resistance of the enemy, who is still  
holding out between Lakes Presna and  
Ochrida and north-west of Monastir.  
They passed Krushevo on a wide front,  
and are advancing on Kiovol.

On the centre the Serbians, who entered  
Veles at noon, advanced on the front  
Karabunista-Noduk to within 23 miles  
of Uskub. They also reached the region  
of Kotechana and Radovista and pushed  
on their cavalry in the Lehovo region to  
within six miles of the Bulgarian front-  
ier.

The Allies' right wing occupy the  
Strumitsa region and are ascending the  
Strumitsa Valley eastwards.

Over 300 guns have been captured since  
the beginning of the offensive.

## FIRES ROUND USKUB.

LONDON, September 29th.  
2.10 p.m.

A Serbian communiqué states:—We  
have taken Mount Plachkavica and are  
approaching Caravotelo and Saint  
Nicholas.

We are now northward of Veles.  
There are big fires round Uskub.  
The Serbians alone have so far cap-  
tured 160 guns.

THROWING ENEMY RESERVES  
INTO BULGARIA.

AMSTERDAM, September 29th.

Admiral von Hintze, speaking in the  
Reichstag, said that Germany and  
Austria are throwing all their available  
reserves into Bulgaria. The situation,  
however, remained critical.

He endeavoured to convince the Reich-  
stag that the armistice proposal had  
caused great indignation in Bulgaria.

## GATAPAL.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

## THE ALLIANCE IN JEOPARDY.

AMSTERDAM, September 29th.

The German newspapers are very no-  
xious regarding Bulgaria. They assert  
that heavy German reinforcements are  
rushing thither in order to strengthen the  
pro-German elements.

The Lokaleser, Forstliche, Tagblatt,  
and Germania exhort the German nation  
to be calm in the fateful hour.

The Lokaleser says communication  
with Constantinople must be maintained  
at all costs.

Vorwaerts says, "From the day of M.  
Matinoff's appointment it was well known  
in political circles that our Alliance was  
in the greatest danger. In addition to the  
Cabinet's pro-Entente sentiment, there is  
an extraordinarily ardent desire for peace  
on the part of the people, whose food for  
months has been crumbling and indigesti-  
ble maize bread. Even if the supporters  
of the Alliance regain the upper hand,  
there can be no illusion regarding the  
value of the preservation of the Alliance  
for Germany."

GERMANS RETREATING FROM  
ROUMANIA.

PARIS, September 29th.

Swiss reports state that the German  
forces occupying Roumania have begun  
to retreat.  
The German Civil authorities at  
Bucharest are hastily removing the  
archives.

It is persistently rumoured that there  
has been a general rising among the  
population in occupied Roumania.

## THE BULGARIAN PROPOSAL.

OFFICIAL NOTE.

COPENHAGEN, September 29th.

A message from Sofia, dated September  
28th, states:—The Parties of the Minis-  
terial Bloc publish the following Note:—  
"In accord with the Parties of the Bloc the  
Government, at five o'clock yesterday  
afternoon, made an official offer of an  
armistice to the adversary. The Parties  
of the Bloc invite the Army and popula-  
tion to maintain military and public dis-  
cipline, which are so necessary for a happy  
issue in these times, which are decisive  
for the recently begun work of peace.  
Parliament is convoked for September  
30th."

MOMENT INOPORTUNE FOR  
ARMISTICE.

LONDON, September 29th.

The Times understands that it is regarded  
as doubtful whether any request for an  
armistice by Bulgaria can be entertained  
at this stage of the operations.

## ENEMY PRESS COMMENT.

Vorwaerts, after referring to the possi-  
bility of a collapse of the German de-  
fence on the Western Front, concludes:—  
"The hour has arrived to speak plainly.  
It is no longer a question of conquests,  
but of attaining peace without unbear-  
able burdens. The Government must do  
its utmost to come to the conference table  
very speedily."

Neue Freie Presse says that Austria has  
taken measures to ensure reinforcements  
reaching the Bulgarians as early as pos-  
sible, and declares that the retreating  
Bulgarians are getting in touch with the  
Austrians. Albania has been removed  
from the control of the Bulgarian com-  
mand. The journal assumes that a new  
front will be established, ensuring the  
Central Powers' Eastern communications.  
Frankfurter Zeitung's Vienna corre-  
spondent states:—As a result of the alarm-  
ing news from Bulgaria the Premier  
Husarek summoned the party leaders,  
and discussed the advisability of con-  
voking the Reichstag. It is rumoured that  
Premier Husarek has been ordered to  
form a Coalition Ministry. The Hun-  
garian Premier has arrived at Vienna.

AUTHENTICITY OF REQUEST FOR  
ARMISTICE.

LONDON, September 29th.

The following Sofia official announce-  
ment leaves no doubt that the Bulgarian  
request for an armistice comes from a  
representative quarter:—"In view of the  
conjunction of circumstances which have  
recently arisen, and after the position had  
been, jointly discussed with all the com-  
petent authorities, the Bulgarian Govern-  
ment, desiring to end bloodshed, has em-  
powered the Generalissimo of her field  
armies to propose to the Entente Gen-  
eralissimo at Salonika the cessation of  
hostilities in order to begin negotiations  
with the object of concluding an armistice  
and peace."

## REICHSTAG DECISION.

AMSTERDAM, September 29th.

On the suggestion of Admiral von  
Hintze, the Reichstag decided not to dis-  
cuss the Bulgarian situation in public.

## EARLIER CABLES.

## A CLUMSY RUDE.

PARIS, September 29th.

The Serbian Premier, M. Pashitch,  
interviewed, said he believed the  
Bulgarian armistice request was a  
clumsy ruse to gain time and reinforce-  
ments.

## GREAT BRITAIN'S REPLY.

LONDON, September 29th.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the  
British reply to the Bulgarian request  
for an armistice confirms General  
Desperes' refusal to suspend operations,  
and makes it quite clear to the Sofia  
Government that peace will necessarily  
involve a complete rupture by Turkey,  
Germany and Austria-Hungary. Other  
necessary conditions will be guarantees  
for the prevention of the despatch of  
German troops towards Bulgaria and  
demobilisation of the Bulgarian Army,  
its employment against the Central  
Powers, and the evacuation of non-  
Bulgarian territory.

It is pointed out that Serbia and  
Greece must be fully consulted regarding  
all the territorial questions involved.

## BRITISH PRESS COMMENT.

LONDON, September 29th.

The newspapers, commenting upon the  
Bulgarian proposal, while considering  
an armistice an unnecessary preliminary  
to discussion, recognise the advantage of  
a separate peace, but insist upon the  
full carrying out of the Allied policy  
in the Balkans and safeguarding the  
interests of Serbia, Roumania and  
Greece.

The Daily Chronicle says:—"If Bul-  
garia wants to negotiate, we are willing;  
but it is unlikely that an armistice will  
be granted."

The Daily Telegraph says:—"The  
Allies will not be tricked, but the fewer  
the enemies the better."

The Daily Mail says:—"The only pos-  
sible guarantee is the surrender of the  
Bulgarian Army and the submission of  
the Bulgarian people."

The Daily News says:—"The proposal  
deserves the most earnest consideration."  
The Daily Express says:—"The Allies  
will not pay too big a price for the dis-  
tinct advantage of a separate peace."

The Times says:—"It is for the com-  
manders in the field to deal with the  
proposal. If the Bulgarians will desert  
their Allies and leave us free to carry  
out our Balkan policy, they will be  
well advised to say so."

Official Serbian circles in London are  
strongly opposed to an armistice.

## KING OF BULGARIA APPROVES.

PARIS, September 29th.

A high Bulgarian officer brought a  
letter to the British Commander-in-Chief  
from the Bulgarian Generalissimo asking  
for forty-eight hours' suspension of  
hostilities, mentioning that Bulgaria  
proposes to send the Minister of  
Finance and the Commander of the  
Second Army on behalf of the Bulgarian  
Government, with King Ferdinand's  
approval, to discuss the terms of the  
armistice.

## EFFECT ON OTHER CAMPAIGNS.

LONDON, September 29th.

A message dealing with the effect  
of a Bulgarian peace on the Mes-  
opotamian and Palestine campaigns and  
the world's food situation, concludes:—  
These results are only obtainable by a  
complete rupture of the political and  
military relations between Bulgaria  
and the Central Powers, and the Allied  
occupation of the communications be-  
tween Bulgaria and Austria-Hungary.  
Presumably this would be one of the  
essentials upon which an armistice would  
be granted.

GOVERNOR OF METZ  
REMOVED.

LONDON, September 29th.

A telegram from The Hague states that  
General Owen, Governor of Metz since  
1911, has been removed from his post.  
The Order of Merit has been bestowed  
upon him.

## THE GERMAN COLONIES.

LONDON, September 29th.

The following message concludes the  
telegram on this subject which  
appeared in yesterday's issue:—"Two  
years ago Germany miscalculated  
what she could do with her submarines,  
but she is not likely to similarly mis-  
calculate a second time if she were left  
free to use her colonies as submarine  
bases all over world. To counter the  
charge of Imperialism which might be  
levelled against England, it is necessary  
to make it clear that we have no desire  
for colonial expansion. We already have  
vast self-governing colonies, and we only  
seek security. To cope with the German  
submarines based in the Heligoland  
Bight we now require 10,000 vessels. If  
Germany had submarine bases overseas, we  
should be compelled to maintain an or-  
ganisation several times as great."

## SHIPWRIGHTS' STRIKE.

LONDON, September 29th.

The Clyde shipwrights' ballot resulted:—  
For resumption of work, 1,014; against,  
1,025.

Despite the narrow majority in favour  
of continuing the strike, the men's ex-  
ecutives ordered an immediate resumption  
of work.

## AMERICAN COTTON.

WASHINGTON, September 29th.

The Government has appointed a Com-  
mittee to investigate the entire cotton  
situation, also a Committee to control  
during the investigation the distribution  
of cotton by purchasing all the cotton  
needed by the United States and Allies  
at a price approved by the President.

COTTON CONTROL REGULA-  
TIONS.

LONDON, September 29th.

The Cotton Control Board announces  
that in order to make up for time lost  
owing to the recent strike, spinning mills  
may be licensed to work 55 hours weekly  
from October 28th. From September 29th  
manufacturers engaged on American  
yarns will be allowed to run 60 per cent.  
instead of 55 per cent. of their looms.  
Manufacturers at present licensed to  
work over 65 per cent. because they have  
some looms engaged on Egyptian yarns  
or fine counts, may only run 60 per cent.

ANTI-GERMAN DEMONSTRATIONS  
AT SOFIA.

PARIS, September 29th.

A message from Zurich states that  
anti-German demonstrations at Sofia,  
which have prevailed since Sunday last,  
have assumed an alarming character  
of the remaining looms.

## INDIAN REFORMS.

LONDON, September 29th.

The Times states it is understood that  
Lord Southborough has accepted the  
Chairmanship of both Committees which  
will complete in India the investigation  
of the problem of Indian reforms.

## GERMAN VESSELS IN CHILE.

SANTIAGO, September 29th.

An armed naval base is occupied by  
all German vessels interned in Chilean  
harbours.

## THE SILVER MARKET.

PARIS, September 29th.

The silver market is steady. There is  
a moderate home trade demand.



EX-TER, NICHOLAS II.  
THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

[BY DR. R. J. DILLON.]

In the course of a vivid account of the career of the late Tsar, Dr. E. J. Dillon deals with developments of Russian policy in the Far East which followed the Treaty of Shimoda, and tells how the Kaiser, in an interview, secured the Tsar's assent to Germany leasing Kiao Chow, in China. The concession was made without the knowledge of Count Witte, and the Tsar refused to withdraw his consent to the German scheme, although urged to do so by the Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich. Dr. Dillon proceeds:—

Witte hastened to the German Embassy, and asked Von Tschirschky to telegraph to the Kaiser and say that Witte, availing himself of the authorisation he had received from Wilhelm II. to appeal to him direct whenever he liked, now brought him not to insist on leasing Kiao Chow, because Russia would be obliged to follow the example and lease some other Chinese port, and thus to upset the equilibrium of the Far East. Von Tschirschky despatched some such message to Berlin, and a few days later called upon Witte, and said: "His Majesty the Kaiser thanks you warmly for your frank exposé. But from the wording of your message he infers that certain important details governing this whole question of Kiao Chow were unknown to you."

A council was convened, under the chairmanship of Muraviev, who moved that Port Arthur should be taken as a set-off. Witte demurred, on the ground that the result would be to commit Russia to the dangerous policy of annexation, which must culminate in war, and he advised the Tsar either to abide by what had been done or else to insist on Germany's withdrawal from Kiao Chow, and uphold the integrity of China. This, he argued, would put Russia's political and economic interests in a line with those of good faith and morality, and might even constrain Germany to give way. The council passed a resolution that Port Arthur should not be taken. Witte himself drew up the minutes of that meeting, which were laid before the Tsar. Nicholas II. read, approved, and ratified them, tranquillised his Ministers, and then issued secret orders to Admiral Dubassoff to take Port Arthur. Witte, incensed at what he termed the Emperor's double-dealing, spoke to the monarch with unbecomingly frankness, and made his sinister consequences clear. Naturally, too, he expressed his amazement that the Tsar should have professed one policy and executed the other. "Yes," replied the Emperor, "but an English squadron was about to occupy the port, and the only alternative to the order I gave was to abandon it to the English. Is that what you would have had me do?"

## TSAR'S SECRET GOVERNMENT.

The story has been told of how the negotiations, inaugurated by the genial Japanese statesman Ito, failed, in consequence of the failure of Nicholas II., who, looking down upon Nippon as a miniature state of no military strength, imagined that she would never dare to declare war on her mighty neighbour, and that hostilities were therefore eliminated, because he himself was resolved not to draw the sword. One practical consequence of this arbitrary assumption was that he made no adequate preparations for a conflict, while asserting claims and adopting methods that were sure to bring it on. As Fate in its ironical mood would have it, Japan was animated throughout by a sincere desire to strike up a friendly understanding with the Tsardom, to protect their interests, and share the risks and burdens. Her demands were fair and moderate. But the Tsar who was the real director of Russia's foreign policy, insisted on reserving the markets of the Far East for Russian industries which did not yet exist, and on annexing Korea, which Japan had long earmarked for herself. Witte, who was shocked by this incongruous and provocative procedure, and terrified at the thought of the catastrophe which it threatened to bring down upon his country, moved every lever to ward off the danger. But he had already lost any influence he may have previously wielded over his Imperial master. New favourites had arisen who refused to pay toll to the Minister who for several years had been the most powerful administrator of the Empire. Plehve, who now ruled the country, looked upon Witte as a personal enemy, and classed him as a traitor to the Crown. Three avaricious parasites—Bezobrazoff, Abaza, and later on, Admiral Alexieff, together with the Tsar, formed a secret Government of their own, annulled Ministerial decisions, concealed from the responsible authorities decrees issued by the Emperor, and surreptitiously executed by themselves as the will of the Government, forged orders and falsified resolutions passed by special Crown committees. In these circumstances the responsible Government was powerless. Japan was bewildered, and knew not whither to turn. Witte, rendered reckless by the magnitude of the danger, had recourse to plain speaking, and adjured the monarch to abandon the

Yalu concession and come to an entente with Japan in terms the earnestness and frankness of which infuriated in lieu of convincing the Tsar. General Kuropatkin, the War Minister, whom Witte had in the meanwhile won over to his way of thinking, warned the Emperor in words as stirring as a courier could with impunity employ, and suggested that Kwantung, Port Arthur, and Dalny, which he himself had been instrumental in annexing, should be returned to China, and that the Yalu concession should be relinquished for the sake of a complete understanding with Japan and the peace which that would secure.

It was at this juncture, while the patriotic enemies of the secret junta were growing in numbers, that the trio enlisted the services of Plehve, one of the most far-seeing and resourceful of the champions of autocracy. This Minister, who presided over the home Government, had little difficulty in keeping the balance on the side of the Grand Ducal group. He discerned, as clearly Witte did, that war was one of the contingencies which the doings of the triumvirate would infallibly bring in their train, but he likewise perceived that the Tsarist State could not long be kept together in the circumstances which then prevailed. He hoped, however, to give it a new lease of life by diverting the subversive energies of the revolutionary classes into a national channel, while according to these classes far-reaching social reforms, hedged round elaborately with certain guarantees. For the realisation of the first part of his programme he relied upon the triumvirate of irresponsible concession-grabbers, and for the latter upon a priest named Gapon, who hypnotised the working men, organised strikes, agitated against employers and capitalists, and was subsidised by the Government. In order to carry out this bewildering policy it was desirable, nay, indispensable, to paralyse Witte and frustrate his plans. And these aims were duly incorporated in Plehve's policy.

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR JAPANESE WAR.

In the course of the conversations that went on during the crisis between St. Petersburg and Tokio, the Emperor, who fancied that it was he who was virtually governing all the Eastern peoples from the west of Russia to the east of China, laid down a number of maxims to be followed by his Viceroy Alexieff, one of which is characteristic of the man, whose means were generally at variance with his aims. "Russia," he wrote, "stands to gain enormously by every year of peace. Therefore, every exertion must be made to avert war, not, however, by concessions, which would surely precipitate hostilities." How hostilities were finally precipitated is recounted in my book. Russia had drafted the terms of an agreement with Japan, one clause of which, establishing a neutral zone, was strongly objected to by the Mikado's Government. The Tsar convoked a Special Council to consider the matter with a view to avoiding a conflict. As peace and war hung upon the issue, the Council wisely resolved to expunge the obnoxious paragraph and draft a modified convention, as the Japanese desired. This decision was arrived at by all the members present except Abaza. Before the minutes were put in writing for the Emperor's decision, Abaza obtained an audience, and conveyed to him the impression that the members of the Council, including the Grand Duke Alexis who had presided, were all of his opinion, that a neutral zone should be established, and then he craved the Tsar's permission to telegraph this proposal to the Viceroy of the Far East for his guidance. In his telegram to this official, however, he went a step farther on the crooked path of deception, and described his own scheme as that of the Emperor. The effect intended was to lead Alexieff, who was carrying on the negotiations with the Japanese, should reject their suggestion about the neutral zone. But, lest this notification should not be taken to heart or acted upon in time, Abaza himself called on the Japanese Minister, Baron Kurino, behind the back of the Foreign Secretary, and had the effrontery to tell him that the Council had decided in favour of the clause rejected by the Japanese. As Baron Kurino was aware that the Foreign Secretary, the anonymous and irresponsible gang headed by Abaza were directing the Far Eastern policy of the Empire, he apprised his Government of what had been done and what it connoted. The inevitable consequence followed at once; before the minutes of the Special Council were ready for the Tsar's perusal Japan had recalled her envoy, broken off diplomatic relations with the Tsardom, and crippled Russia's Far Eastern squadron.

## RASPUTIN'S WARNING.

That was a Russian version of the Enns forgery and the Franco-Prussian war. The degree to which Nicholas II. was responsible for the slaughter that ensued does not concern us here. Rasputin was wont to tell him to his face that he was an unlucky author who had caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of his loyal subjects, that he had deserved to forfeit his crown and his life in consequence, and that if he drifted into another war, God would condignly punish not only the monarch but the father and the husband. I know for a fact that it was a domestic sermon on this text that moved the Tsar to yield to Austria at a moment when obstinacy would have caused the dense war cloud to burst over Europe.

What cannot be gainsaid is the impossibility for any Government to hold to any line of coherent policy while an autocrat so unstable of purpose as Nicholas II. was free to substitute the wildest vagaries for their deliberate acts, and to keep them temporarily in ignorance of what he had done.

If intentions went for anything, Nicholas II. could plead that his, were of the best. He certainly did not desire war nor anticipate it. He even made a praiseworthy attempt at a considerable sacrifice to prevent it. He had a most important telegram sent to the Viceroy Alexieff authorising the Japanese to enter into full possession of Korea as far as the river Tuman-Ula on the north and of Yalu on the west; and he ordered that this concession be communicated to the Russian Ministers in Tokio, Seoul, and Peking. This would have been quite a stride in the right direction if he had taken it with due precautions. But the telegram was secret! He concealed it even from his own Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs! One consequence of this juggling was that none of the Russian Ministers at Tokio, Seoul, or Peking received any notification of it, so that the concession it embodied was never laid before the Mikado's Government by the shifty Viceroy of the Far East.

## KUROPATKIN'S CAMPAIGN.

In the conduct of the campaign, as in the negotiations which had culminated in the conflict, one of the least soldierly monarchs in Europe fully intervened, with sinister effect. He began by appointing Admiral Alexieff generalissimo of all the land and sea forces, and when it had become obvious that this trifler was utterly unequal to the task, Nicholas II. conferred the post upon General Kuropatkin, but hampered him with preposterous behests which he transmitted through the admiral. Witte, who discerned the avoidable obstacles in the way of a Russian victory, suggested to Kuropatkin that he should arrest Alexieff as a dangerous marplot, and send him back to the capital. But the general was too much of a courtier to hearken to such bold counsels. He resigned himself to the rôle allotted to him by the Emperor, and endeavoured to achieve the impossible. His original plan was to advance as far from his base that he could not count on receiving regular supplies, and then hurl a vast army against him. In the meanwhile Port Arthur, left to its own resources, would fall, as all fortresses must. These were the main lines of the plan of campaign which, to Kuropatkin—who, having occupied the post of War Minister, was thoroughly conversant with the many serious flaws in Russia's military organisation—appeared likely to lead to victory over a little nation whose only perceptible unity, patriotism, and organisation. But the Tsar would tolerate the execution of no scheme which clashed with any of his intermittent whimsies, and one of these was the rescue of Port Arthur. For reasons which have never been divulged, Nicholas II. took it into his head that this fortress, which Kuropatkin had once declared impregnable, must not fall into the enemy's hands, and the gratification of this whim had to be Kuropatkin's principal care. At first it was Alexieff who urged it, but when Kuropatkin, having counted the cost and weighed the consequences, drew back again, and declined to fall in with the suggestion, the admiral invoked the will of the Tsar and produced telegrams which wrought the desired effect. The generalissimo altered his plan fundamentally, made costly exertions to relieve Port Arthur, lost large numbers of men and much valuable war material, and lowered the spirits of the army. This demoralisation, of which the enemy took full advantage, reacted upon the entire population, and gave a flip to the subversive political movements afoot for the overthrow of Tsarism. A well-organised propaganda for the separation of Finland from Russia was started, the Socialists and other revolutionary parties in the Tsardom spent large sums of money, and a scheme was drafted in the Mikado's capital for engineering a rebellion in Poland. This last expedition being combated by one of Poland's most energetic representatives, was dropped.

## MISSION OF COUNT WITTE.

The Boris Russ-Machurian campaign was protracted enough to subject the staying powers of both belligerents to a tremendous strain. Both were dangerously near the snapping point. And nobody who fully grasped the condition of the Tsardom in the summer of 1905, and who knew how little was done in the following nine years to regenerate the land and sea forces of the Tsar, could have expected Russia to hold out in the world-struggle of 1914-1918 much longer than she did. If Japan was exhausted financially, Russia was not far removed from moral collapse; her troops were demoralised and disaffected, and the country was honeycombed with sedition. To people like Witte and myself, who had cognisance of the secret reports from governors of provinces, and other Government officials, it seemed most probable that, five or six months longer of the war would suffice to bring about a bloody uprising throughout the country. In order to avert this catastrophe, Witte went out of his way, overstepped the bounds prescribed by bureaucratic use and wont, and approached the Emperor on several occasions, with pressing requests to conclude peace, and entertained suggestions from neutral sources for the opening of negotiations. At this, as at all critical junctures, Nicholas II. had recourse to expedients which were mutually incompatible. Hav-

ing asked the views of his generals, and received their assurances that a decisive military victory would be scored in a few months, and that peace would be tantamount to national degradation and political disaster, he acquiesced in their view, and then assented to President Roosevelt's suggestion that peace negotiations should be commenced. He never ceased to believe that Russia was on the threshold of victory, and he never forgave Witte for the part he thought this statesman had in hindering her from attaining it. When appointed peace plenipotentiary by the Tsar, Witte asked me to accompany him, and said: "Between you and me the Tsar does not want peace yet. If I succeed in concluding it, I shall be branded as a traitor. If I fail I shall be held up to scorn as a bletcher. In either case this appointment is meant to be the end of my career—the happy release." When due allowance has been made for Witte's morbid misgivings, enough remains to show that the Tsar, far from assisting his plenipotentiary to accomplish his arduous task, did much towards thwarting his endeavours. It is true to affirm that if Witte had not ignored certain of the Tsar's behests he would have returned from Portsmouth without a treaty, and the war would have gone on. Years afterwards this callousness with which Nicholas II. had contemplated the wholesale slaughter caused by a foolish vagary of his own was one of the counts of the indictment drawn up against him by Rasputin, who threatened him in the name of Heaven with the loss of his life, the destruction of his house, and the ruin of his country if he ever became responsible for another war.

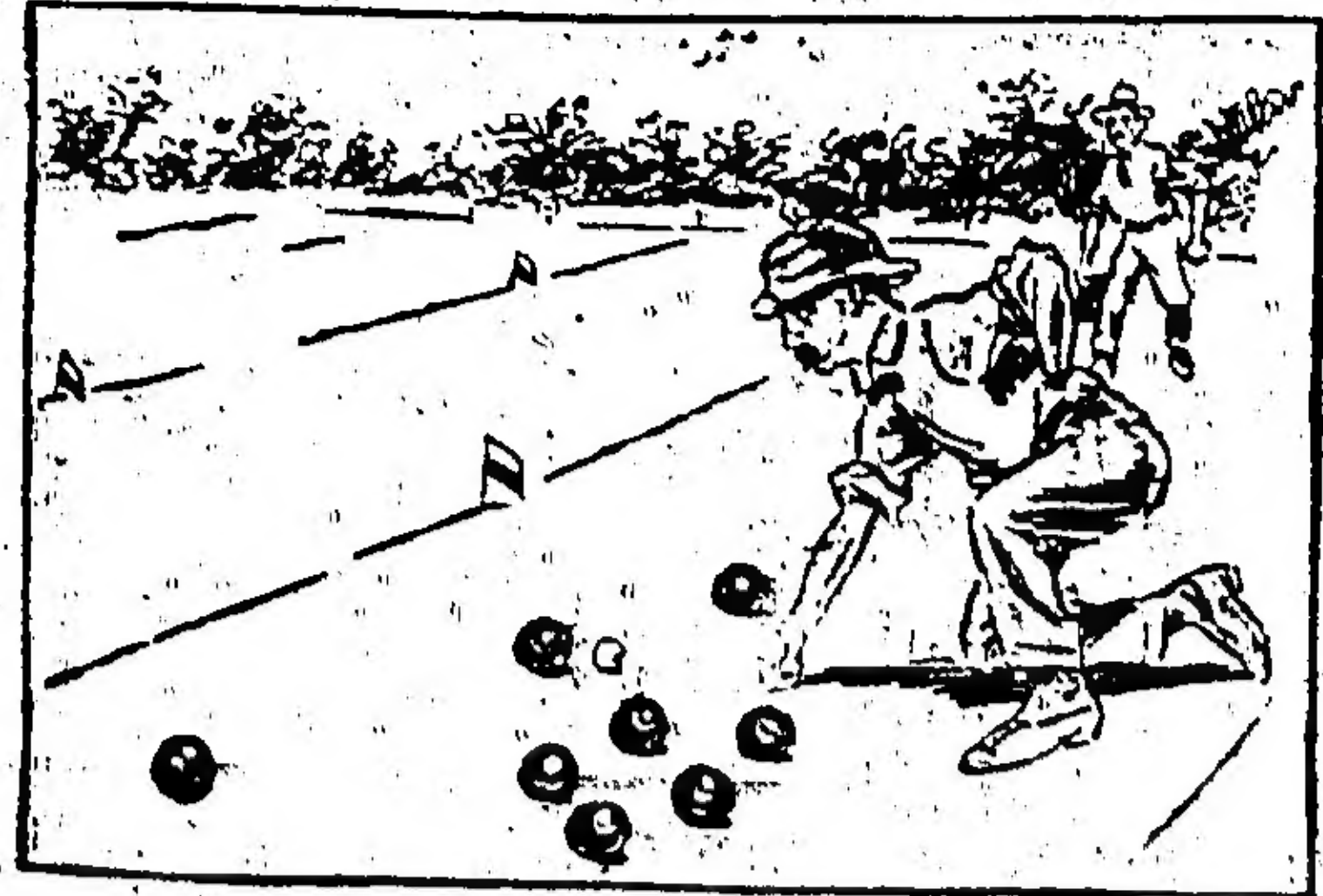
## DEALING WITH GERMANY.

One of the tasks imposed upon Witte when leaving Russia for Portsmouth, U.S.A., to conduct peace negotiations was that of persuading the French Government to take a leading part in floating the biggest loan ever recorded in history in order to enable Russia to re-establish her shattered finances. There were formidable difficulties in the way, and it was no easy matter to dislodge them. But Witte, whose skill as a negotiator was remarkable, touched the right chords and received the requisite promise. And while France was bracing herself to this sacrifice for the behoof of her Russian ally, the Tsar was discussing with the Kaiser the terms of a secret treaty aimed against England, but involving the ostensible dissolution of the Franco-Russian alliance. He finally signed it. According to the first paragraph, "If any European State attacks one of the two empires the allied party forces to assist its ally." That clause annulled the Russo-French alliance, and until it was actually repudiated by Witte and Lansdowne obliged Russia to take sides with Germany not only against Great Britain, but with each other, but even against France if she had been provoked by the Kaiser!

But the Tsar's mental short-sightedness and moral deficiency are answerable for many crooked actions. The only considerations to which he was responsive were the opinions entertained of his doings by the governing classes of the countries which trusted him. For he realised the market value of moral credit and was solicitous about that. Hence he asked himself—as soon as he had affixed his signature to the secret document—what will the French think of me when they learn what I have done? The probable answer to that query was the only thing about the transaction that worried him. But the French never learned it: the secret was well kept, and the treaty was quickly abrogated, not, indeed, without a tremendous effort by Witte and Lansdowne, whereupon Nicholas II. relieved of the fear that barred him, took no further heed of the matter. Neither this nor similar experiences brought him any practical lesson. He continued to revel before, in underhand dealings, and was unable to obtain from brusquely interfering with the most delicate matters of the administration without the slightest regard for what had been done, or what should be aimed at. His entire reign is a record of such futile plunges into affairs affecting the public weal which he was unequalled to deal with and in some cases wholly incapable of understanding. The public servants towards whom he felt drawn were almost always unscrupulous workers like the Foreign Secretary, Muraviev, the Premier, Protopopoff, and the War Minister, Sukhomlinoff. Towards men of mark and character like Witte, Krivoshein, and Semanin, he conceived a positive aversion. Hence the utter discredit into which Russian diplomacy had fallen in the days before Ivolga was entrusted with the portfolio of foreign affairs.

In the space of two years the Tsar's Government twice deliberately hoodwinked the British Foreign Office by holding out the lure of an all-round settlement of differences; the Tsar's Minister, Gorkoff, while professing amity towards Great Britain, sought to organise a Coalition of the Great Powers against her; the War Minister, Kuropatkin, matured one plan for seizing Harat, fighting the Afghans, and severing their links with Great Britain, and another for kidnapping the persons of the Emperor and Dowager Empress of China; the acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shishkin, with the Tsar's approval, prepared to seize Constantinople, and the shores of the Upper Bosphorus, and in January, 1904, war with Great Britain was in sight, and a few months later elaborate measures were adopted in Turkey for a military campaign against India.—Daily Telegraph.

## THE BOWLS MATCH.



GERRY.—Sheer robbery, that's what I call it. I was lyin' three afore that yin came up.  
RUSBY.—Aye, an' what's more, that makes twenty-ahn and you pay for the War Bond Ticket.  
GERRY.—Aweel, I'll just have a measure for't.  
RUSBY.—But there's nae measure in't.  
GERRY.—An' half o' that gang's the th' sodgers at your expense.  
GERRY.—I wadna' care if it a' went to them, for the plin' lads deserve it.

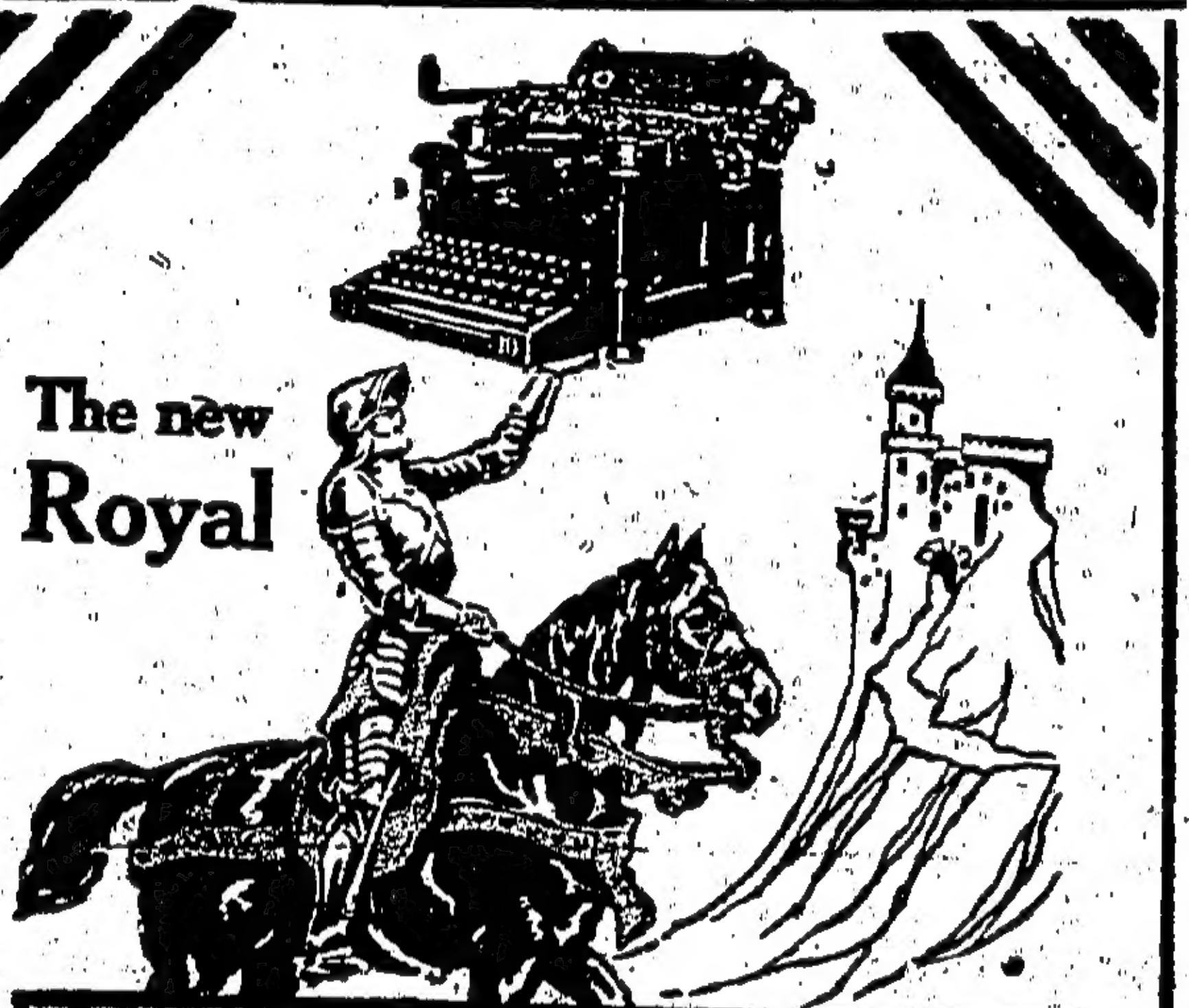
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\*This was an absolute fabrication.  
"The Echoes of Russia," pp. 226 fol.







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	KAGA MARU 12,300 tons	Wed. 30th Oct. 11 A.M.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	AKI MARU 12,200 tons	Sat. 18th Oct. 11 A.M.
	TANGO MARU 13,780 tons	
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE		
LONDON via LIVERPOOL, via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA BAY & CAPE TOWN		
MELBOURNE via MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, THURSDAY, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE & SYDNEY		
NEW-YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO & PANAMA CANAL		
BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA & COLOMBO		
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON		

\* Omitting Shanghai and/or Moji.

+ Wireless telegraphy.

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2. SUWA MARU — Thurs. 14th Nov. at 11 A.M.

\* Omitting Manila Eastbound.

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Steamer	Tons	Leave Hongkong
SHINYU MARU	22,000	WED. 2nd Oct.
KOREA MARU	20,000	THURS. 31st Oct.
SIBERIA MARU	20,000	TUES. 13th Nov.
TENYO MARU	22,000	MON. 25th Nov.

## SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG to VALPARAISO via JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALING CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA and IQUIQUE. THENCE BY TRANS-ANDREAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamer	Tons	Leave Hongkong
NIPPON MARU	11,000	Nov. 8th.

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NORTH AMERICAN LINE—Regular fortnightly services between Hongkong and Peking Bound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan.

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"CHICAGO MARU" — SATURDAY, 26th Oct. at 3 P.M.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every two months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

BOMBAY LINE—Regular fortnightly service for Bombay sailing at Singapore, and Colombo.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Batavia, Sourabaya and Samarang.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, sailing at Auckland, N.Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

FORMOSA LINE—The steamer will arrive at and depart from the SOON TIF WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the Wharf Telephone No. 76 will be fixed.

KEELUNG via SWATOW and AMOY.

"AMAKUSA MARU" — SUNDAY, 6th Oct. at 10 A.M.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

"WOSHU MARU" — THURSDAY, 10th Oct. at 8 A.M.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS

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